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## Letter dated 25 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Security Council will undertake consultations on 26 July 2002 to decide on one of the options proposed by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in the report of 19 February 2002 (S/2002/178). The Kingdom of Morocco would like to recall that it agreed to negotiate on the basis of the framework agreement, in conformity with the recommendation made by the Security Council in resolution 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, while the other two parties, Algeria and the Frente POLISARIO, categorically rejected it.

A draft resolution was circulated on 22 July 2002 among the members of the Security Council to give a clear mandate to Mr. Baker to present a revised framework agreement and we remain ready, in this context, to do our utmost for the success of the Personal Envoy's mission.

However, we have just been informed of an amendment to the operative part of the draft resolution aimed at confusing the mandate by asking the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy, contrary to their own wishes, to propose a fifth option by combining option 1 (settlement plan) and option 2 (framework agreement).

To the extent that it sets out to amalgamate two irreconcilable options, this approach is doomed to failure. Indeed, it could only jeopardize the opportunities to reach, in a near future, a lasting settlement of the issue of Western Sahara.

The Kingdom of Morocco wishes to inform you that it can only participate to a clear and unambiguous exercise.

I should be grateful if you would bring the content of this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council and have it issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed **Bennouna**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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